

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 IO-10 SAJ-01 /074 W

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R 291700Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1226

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1485

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, UR

SUBJECT:ALLEGED JULY 18 BORDER INCIDENT

REFS: (A) USBERLIN 1439; (B) USBERLIN 1424

1. IN FURTHER EFFORT TO SUBSTANTIATE ALLEGATIONS AS TO JULY 18 BORDER SHOOTING (REFTELS), GDR STATE PROSECUTOR DELIVERED TO WEST BERLIN COUNTERPART JULY 25 COPIES OF VOLKSPOLIZEI REPORTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS RELATING TO INCIDENT TOGETHER WITH MATERIAL EVIDENCE PURPORTEDLY DISCOVERED AT SCENE. LATTER INCLUDED SPENT CARTRIDGES, USED MATCHES, CIGARETTE BUTTS, CHIPS OF CONCRETE FROM WALL, PIECES OF BARBED WIRE, AND, AS EXHIBIT NUMBER 1, BLOODY TUNIC AND UNDERSHIRT OF INJURED BORDER GUARD. IN LETTER ACCOMPANYING EVIDENCE, STATE PROSECUTOR ASKED TO BE INFORMED OF RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION.

2. EVEN WITH THIS UNEXPECTED "ASSISTANCE" FROM OTHER
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SIDE, WEST BERLIN POLICE HAVE YET TO UNCOVER ANY

LEADS SUGGESTING THAT INCIDENT ALLEGED BY GDR ACTUALLY OCCURRED. NEW "EVIDENCE" IS, OF COURSE, NOT CONCLUSIVE. HOWEVER, GDR PERSISTENCE IN PRESSING ISSUE AND OSTENSIBLY COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE EXEMPLIFIED IN USE OF STATE PROSECUTOR TO STATE PROSECUTOR RATHER THAN FONMINISTRY TO SENAT CHANNEL PERHAPS TEND TO DISCOUNT POSSIBILITY THAT GDR IS SEEKING TO CONCEAL UNSUCCESSFUL ESCAPE ATTEMPT OR IS MANUFACTURING CHARGES FOR SOME OTHER PURPOSE. IN EITHER OF THESE EVENTUALITIES, GDR WOULD PRESUMABLY DROP MATTER AFTER HAVING MADE POINT AND WOULD NOT RISK HAVING ITS WORD PUBLICLY DISPROVED. INTERESTINGLY, NO FURTHER INFO WAS SUPPLIED JULY 25 TO BACK UP CHARGE OF SECOND BORDER INCIDENT JULY 19 (REF A).

3. IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET STATEMENT ON SUBJECT JULY 18 (PARA 2, REF B), ACTING BRITISH (CHAIRMAN) POLAD INFORMED SOVIET COUNSELOR KHOTULEV JULY 28 IN COURSE OF OTHER BUSINESS THAT WEST BERLIN POLICE HAD MADE VERY THOROUGH SEARCH OF TWO AREAS SPECIFIED BY GDR AUTHORITIES BUT HAD COME UP WITH NO EVIDENCE OR EXPLANATION OF ALLEGED INCIDENTS. WHEN KHOTULEV ASKED FOR REACTION TO NEW GDR EVIDENCE, ACTING POLAD RESPONDED THAT THIS WAS STILL BEING EXAMINED BUT THAT HE DOUBTED WHETHER IT WOULD LEAD MUCH FURTHER. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLEGATIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS, CASUALTIES, BORDER GUARDS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
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Draft Date: 29 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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Type: TE
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